

6-21-1908

Letter from Ruby Willis, Wellesley, Massachusetts,  
to Dr. and Mrs. William H. Willis, Reading,  
Massachusetts, 1908 June 21

Ruby Willis

Wellesley College Archives

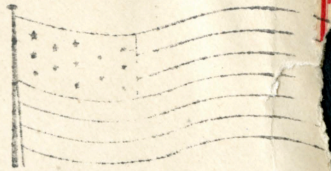
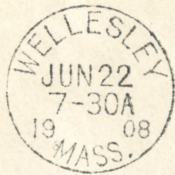
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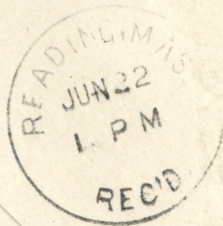
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Mr. & Mrs. William H. Willis,  
Reading,  
Massachusetts.



Sunday, June 21.

[1908]

My dear ones at home, —

So much has happened since I was home that it seems ages ago. I got back here about half-past seven Thursday night, and just played around the rest of the evening, helping Janet pack, etc. Friday morning I went to chapel, then to see Miss Tufts, & put in Margery's application, so her application is dated June 19, 1908. I will send you the card to make out, but



Miss Tufts said that the application dated from the time the money was paid, & I made out a check for it.

Friday afternoon I went to Boston, and bought some very good-looking shoes at that place on Summer St. that father took me to. I shopped all the afternoon & met Marion Haines in Jordan's, so we went to <sup>the</sup> Hylers & talked a steady streak until train time. I got out here just in time for dinner, & then rushed to Senior play. I stood up most of the evening, over 3 hours, so you can perhaps imagine

what I felt like when I got home a little after eleven. The play was perfectly wonderful, and Katharine Senison was much more than an amateur player. The play is very tragic, and the last two scenes are enough to wear anyone out, they are so tense.

Yesterday was hot enough for real Commencement weather, but it was pleasant so we were thankful. The last regular chapel service came in the morning, led by Pres. Hazard. After chapel the Seniors rehearsed for commencement, & it was such fun to be there. Only the junior washers stayed. Miss Pendleton & Miss Calkins have little Latin speeches to say, & then there are also seven girls, graduates, who receive M.A. degrees & they had to practice having the master's hood put on. They had forgotten to bring the hood, so Miss Pendleton took Miss Calkins's blue rajah silk coat, tied the sleeves together, & used that. Of course it made lots of fun. There are 237 graduates this year, and



Helen Eustis got her degree, - in fact every one in the class got her degree something which has not happened since 1902, it is said. Miss Chapin told us about Helen Thursday night, for we were so anxious to know.

Well, yesterday afternoon was garden-party, and it was perfectly beautiful. The party was over by longfellow, & the girls looked so pretty in their new gowns & hats. I went with Marian Barnes's guests, for she had heaps of them. She

gave me some of her roses to wear  
and in my pretty new dress & hat  
& wasn't so bad. The alumnae  
came here yesterday, & O, they are  
so funny; some of them are awfully  
nice, but it is funny to hear them  
chatter. I don't fancy the prospect  
of sometime being an alumna of  
twenty years' standing. One of the  
ladies at our table, Mrs. Page,  
Miss Tufts's cousin is very nice &  
so is her room-mate. Mrs. Page  
has been at York 32 years; they  
have a house over on the Bluffs



beyond the "Hastings". Isn't that strange?

Part of this letter I wrote this morning before chapel, & since then the alumnae have done much cutting up. At dinner they were so very noisy that, if it had been us, Miss Denison would have rung the bell, I'm sure.

Dr. Denison preached the Baccalaureate sermon this morning, & was quite good, but very long, and it was so hot. We had supper out-doors to-night, & then went to vesper. Our beautiful Dean led, & the music was perfectly wonderful; they had men singers from town, & there was organ, piano, & violin beside the regular choir.

The Dean received at the garden-party yesterday with Sue Barrow & Katharine Denison, & she looked, if possible, more beautiful than ever, in a white hat trimmed with pale blue. After the garden-party there was the Senior Tree-Day dancing over again, & then in the evening a Glee Club concert. The

glee & mandolin clubs were just inside the door leading out on the South Porch of College Hall, so people eat out-doors & were quite comfortable & cool. It was a very good arrangement, I think.

To-morrow there is practically nothing going on until evening, when there is step-singing & the President's reception. Then Tuesday morning is Commencement, & in the afternoon I shall begin to pack up. I want to come home, but I do hate to bring my Junior year to a close,



for I've been having such a good  
time. By Wednesday, Hetty & I will  
be the only juniors here, I think, so  
I suppose I shall be quite ready  
to leave.

I received my laundry all  
right on Friday, about ten o'clock  
in the morning! How do you  
suppose it got here so quickly?

Well, I think I'll stop now, &  
say good-night. With heaps of love  
to you all, from

Ruby.